

What is Claimed is:

1. A medical device manufacturing and supply information management system comprising:

5 a Web-enabled information network having data communications with the manufacturing process;

a programmer; and

10 at least one implanted medical device having specific features, including customized features having customized data sets deployed from a known source, said Web-enabled information network being in bi-directional data communications scheme with a programmer, and the programmer being in data communication with said implanted medical device.

15 2. The system of claim 1 wherein said Web-enabled information network includes one of satellite based telecommunications link and a cellular link.

20 3. The system of claim 1 wherein said programmer is implemented to interface between the medical device and the Web-enabled information network via the bi-directional data communication scheme to store and transfer said customized data set and information about the at least one implanted medical device.

25 4. The system of claim 1 wherein said at least one implanted medical device includes said customized data set relating to specific device functions and/or features, a patient warning alarm, a voice alert in the patient's own language, patient's name and identification number, name of the implanting institution and physician and the date of the implant, as well as the hubs inventory management system label.

30 5. The system of claim 1 wherein said known source includes at least one of the manufacturing center, hospital, sales office, distributor, having data communications with the Web-enabled information network.

6. A medical device inventory and production control system synchronous with various phases of product manufacturing for customized devices and to start various consumption hubs including hospitals, sales offices, distributors and sales representatives on a build-to-order basis and a build-to-order production scheme, the system comprising:

5 a Web-enabled information network being in data communication with manufacturing, shipping/delivery and the various consumption hubs;

10 at least one programmer being in a bi-directional data communication scheme with a Web-enabled information network; and

15 at least one device implanted in a patient taken out of one of the consumption hubs, and having a customized data set downloadable to the Web-enabled information network via the programmer to thereby route device information to the manufacturing facility, having access to the Web-enabled information network.

15 7. A method for managing medical device inventory production to coordinate and maintain a just-in-time inventory when a build-to-order/build-to-replenish production scheme, wherein the manufacturing process and sales distribution hubs are synchronized to tract the implantation of a customized medical device, the method comprising:

20 providing a Web-enabled information network, having bi-directional data communication with the hubs;

25 maintaining an inventory of all medical devices at the hubs and at the manufacturing facility;

downloading a customized data set for the device in a programmer transferring the customized data set to a manufacturing plant via the Web-enabled information network to start a build-to-order/build-to-replenish operation.